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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 36

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Elmo Rowland on the celebration of his 90th birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those citizens who are celebrating special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, Elmo Rowland will celebrate his 90th birthday on February 13, 2001, a milestone that will be commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, the only son of Pitt and Lena Rowland's seven children, Mr. Rowland was born and raised on the family farm in Dekalb County; as a youth, Mr. Rowland began a lifetime of active and productive contribution to promoting the improvement of agriculture in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Elmo Rowland graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1933 with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture; while in college, his devotion to the betterment of agricultural practices was manifested through his membership in organizations such as Alpha Zeta National Honorary Agricultural Fraternity and the Ag Club (1929 through 1933); he also served as Business Manager of Tennessee Farmer in 1932-33, Assistant General Manager of

Barnwarming in 1932, Assistant Manager of the Ag Club Lunch Stand in 1932, and Business Manager of Barnwarming Special in 1932; and

WHEREAS, after graduating and working as a farm manager for a few months, Mr. Rowland began his lengthy and accomplished career with the Tennessee Valley Authority; before taking a well-deserved retirement in 1976, he served with acumen and alacrity for forty-two years as a model employee in this vital organization, earning the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rowland is an active participant in the agricultural community of Tennessee as a member of the American Hereford Association, Tennessee Hereford Association, Washington County Cattlemen's Association, and Washington Farmers Cooperative; he operated a large dairy farm while living in Clinton and today enjoys living on a small farm outside Jonesborough, where he primarily raises beef cattle; and

WHEREAS, Elmo Rowland has been blessed with the companionship of the former Ernest Lou Young since their marriage in 1939; for more than six decades, they have faced the world as one, drawing strength and happiness from their love for each other during both life's joys and sorrows; and

WHEREAS, deeply devoted to family, Mr. Rowland's blessed union with his wife has produced six children, David M. Rowland, E. Kent Rowland, Allan C. Rowland, Terry E. Rowland, and Melinda Christian, and the late Michael Y. Rowland; and

WHEREAS, Elmo Rowland is the proud grandfather of seventeen grandchildren, one step-grandchild, and one great-grandchild; and

WHEREAS, as Mr. Rowland approaches his tenth decade, he is still an active and productive member of society, participating in various civic and community events; his social conscience and commitment to public service have grown and flourished since his days at the University of Tennessee when he was active in Phi Kappa Phi Fraternity, Carnicus in 1931-32, the YMCA Cabinet from 1930 to 1933, as Business Manager of Torch in 1932-33, and as a First Lieutenant in the Reserve Officer Training Corps in 1932-33; and

WHEREAS, a loyal alumnus of his alma mater, Elmo Rowland served on the University of Tennessee National Alumni Board of Governors from 1983 until 1992 and on the U.T. Institute of Agriculture Alumni Council in 1995-96; he is also a member of the Washington County Chapter of the U.T. Alumni Association; and

WHEREAS, a respected member of the Lions Club for sixty-one years, Mr. Rowland was a charter member of the Clinton Lions and has served in his current position as Secretary of the Johnson City Lions Club for the past twenty-three years; he is a Melvin Jones Fellow and was honored as Lion of the Year in 1982-83 and as District Lion of the Decade for 1976-85; and

WHEREAS, Elmo Rowland is an active and devout Christian who serves the Lord as a member of the Jonesborough United Methodist Church; he has served the congregation on numerous committees and is currently Chairman of the Stewardship and Finance Committee, a member of the Administrative Board, and a delegate to the Holston Annual Conference; and

WHEREAS, we wish to take this golden opportunity to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Elmo Rowland on the celebration of his 90th birthday and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.